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Message Text

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ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 AID-05 /045 W
----------105975 201427Z /45
R 191509Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7153
INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

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FOR OPIC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EINV, BEXP, NU
SUBJECT: LABOR PRACTICES OF ROSARIO RESOURCES CORPORATION

REF: A) MANAGUA 2908 B) MANAGUA 2648 C) MANAGUA 2171

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM ROBERT L. SWAIN, GENERAL MANAGER, ROSARIO MINING OF NICARAGUA INC. LETTER ADDRESSES VARIOUS LABOR PRACTICES OF THE COMPANY IN THEIR NICARAGUAN OPERATION.

2. WAGE RATES CITED APPEAR TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH NICARAGUAN LAW. HOWEVER, RATES INDICATED BY COMPANY ARE HIGHER THAN THOSE INDICATED BY WORKERS IN INFORMAL INTERVIEWS CONCUCTED BY COMOFF (SEE REFTEL A). OTHER WORKER BENEFITS NOTED BY ROSARIO IN LETTER ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE DISCUSSED IN REF C.

3. IN REGARD TO SAFELY MEASURES, LETTER STATES THAT COMPANY POLICY IS TO ORGANIZE A SAFETY PROGRAM AND
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TO IMPROVE THE COMPANY'S SAFETY RECORD. FRIM HAS RECENTLY FORMED AN INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE AND ACCIDENT SECTION WHICH IS IN CHARGE OF SAFETY MATTERS. ACCORDING TO ROSARIO, THERE IS A PERMANENT SAFETY INSPECTOR AT THE MINE WHO RECEIVED SPECIALIZED TRAINING IN SAFETY IN MANAGUA.

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4. ACCIDENT STATISTICS ARE KEPT BY THE INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT AND THE COMPANY REPORTS THE FOLLOWING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1978.

	FREQUENCY (PER 10,000 MAN SHIFTS)	SEVERITY
MINE DEPARTMENT	10	21
OTHER DEPARTMENTS	4	15
TOTAL	6	17

5. EMBASSY HAS NO WAY OF JUDGING THE COMPANY'S SAFETY PROGRAM NOR THE ACCURACY OF ITS STATISTICS. EMPLOYEES INDICATED TO COMOFF A FEAR OF ENTERING MINE SHAFTS DUE TO PERCEPTION OF UNSAFE CONDITIONS. ROSARIO HAS NOT YET EXPLAINED DETAILS OF CURRENT SAFETY PROGRAM (INSPECTIONS, QUALITY CONTROL, CONTROL OF GASES, ETC.) OR WHAT NEW OR DIFFERENT PROCEDURES WILL BE INSTITUTED BY THE PROPOSED INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE & ACCIDENT SECTION. NOR IS ANY PRECISE STATEMENT REGARDING THEQUALIFICATIONS OF THE CURRENT SAFETY INSPECTOR OF THOSES TO BE INCORPORATED IN THE NEW SECTION GIVEN. OPIC MAY WANT TO PURSUE ISSUE OF OUTSIDE INSPECION TEAMS WITH ROSARIO RESOURCES BEFORE MAKING FINAL DECISIONS ON INSURANCE REQUEST.

6. COPY OF LETTER WILL BE FORWARDED TO OPIC, USDOC, AND SECSTATE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR, POLICIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Expiration:
Film Number: D780298-0412
Format: TEL
From: MANAGUA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780743/aaaabkeg.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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